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Apr. 7-3 m.

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918 Seventh Street Northwest, WASHINGTON, D. C.

HATS RENOVATED.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

W. Calvin Chase, attorney and counselor at law, has moved in his new down town office, 406 5th and D streets, n. w., near the courts, where he can be seen from 8 to 4, after which time he can be seen at his up town office, 1109 1st street, n. w. All kinds of law business attended to with care.

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EX-BALIFF LENARD.

AN OFFENSIVE OFFICER.

From the American.

A stumbling block in the way of the colored barrister is the humiliating and insulting manner in which he is sometimes treated by one of the subordinate officers of the court. This gentleman's brief authority was recently directed by an inordinate prejudice against a colored member of the bar. The insolence of office is an incident to some members of all races. A few years ago a Negro named Lenard, in his official capacity as a bailiff, took great pains to secure the white practitioners good seats within the rails of the court room but as for those of his own color, he showed them but little, if any official courtesy. A few days ago another gentleman belonging to the more fortunate race, and much higher in the official scale than was the colored insolent, was guilty of at least one act of gross discourtesy to a colored member of the bar. The colored barrister being desirous of hearing the great legal lights on both sides in the celebrated Breckenridge-Pollard case then on trial, had been as required by the clerk of the court as by a member of the bar, and had appeared as counsel even in capital cases of the bar. He had attended more or less each day the setting in the case on trial. As this colored barrister stood in an orderly manner in the court room upon the occasion in question, the officer referred to, approached him very roughly and demanded to know how he had got into the court room. He was shown the colored attorney's business card and informed that he had been certified to. Disregarding all this, the officer ordered the lawyer out, and began to eject him.

On reaching the door the keeper informed the officer that the gentleman was a member of the bar. This gentleman (?) officer then walked off without a word of apology for his rudely treatment of a well behaved member of the bar. I am pleased to state that the Judge of the Supreme Court has unanimously elected this gentleman to the readership of the District jail, a position in which his rough manners will be in better place. It is to be hoped that his successor like his predecessor, will be more gentlemanly toward colored members of the bar than was the officer in question.

R. S. SMITH.

Jas. W. Taylor

KNOWS HOW TO TREAT people; he is the most polite man in business I ever saw. He knows how to handle men. I think the people in Washington are missing a treat by not patronizing this young man. I have entered many barber shops but I have not seen any to excel 906 and 1609 11th St. N. W. March 24-3-mo.

THE COLUMBIA DESK CAL

ENDAR,

Which is issued annually by the Pope Manufacturing Company, of Columbia Bicycle fame, is out for 1894, much improved in appearance. It is a pad calendar of the same size and shape as those of previous years, having a leaf for each day, but its attractiveness has been heightened by the work of a clever artist, who has scattered a series of bright pen-drawings through its pages. It also contains, as usual, many appropriate and interesting contributions from people both bright and wise.

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BY THE PUPILS OF THE

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Programme will consist of music

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The dyspeptic, the debilitated, whether from excess of work of mind or body, drink or exposure in

Malarial Regions,

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ON SWIFT PINIONS.

The Mysterious Migration of Birds and its Destructive Effects.

Ornithologists for a long time past have been trying to discover some way of protecting birds from destruction by lighthouses. It is reckoned that along the Atlantic coast hundreds of thousands of feathered creatures annually are killed by flying against the structures which Uncle Sam has set up as a warning to mariners.

In a general way it may be said that timid and feeble-winged birds prefer the night for migration, while those which are strong-winged and bold, seeking no concealment, migrate by day; thrushes, warblers and flycatchers by night. During storms—particularly in protracted eastern blows—great numbers of birds fly against the masts and smokestacks of steamers. Frequently from 200 to 300 are picked up in a night on the deck of these vessels. In one case the count of victims was over 700.

During a storm a lighthouse will often be surrounded by myriads of birds of many species. Having been so unfortunate as to start off in their migration on a falling barometer, they have got lost and flocked to the light, wondering about the lantern, and dashing upon it or against the tower. One lighthousekeeper, describing such a phenomenon, says that, as far as he could see by the beam of the light, the air appeared to be a solid "mass of birds."

When one considers the railroad speed at which a duck flies, it is not surprising that the impact of its weight against the plate glass should break it.

Telegraph wires across the line of migration on the prairies kill great numbers of birds, woodcock, especially, because they fly low. But all sorts of feathered creatures, from sparrows to swans, fall victims to this human device. Amongst them snipe also are conspicuous. It has been noticed that when a telegraph line has been newly established a great many birds are slain in this way, whereas after two or three seasons comparatively few suffer. This indicates that birds learn by experience.

On the Pacific Coast, not far from San Francisco, is a stretch of beach on which after a storm great numbers of ducks and divers, and even many albatrosses, may be picked up, as well as pettered creatures, from sparrows to swans, fall victims to this human device. Amongst them snipe also are conspicuous. It has been noticed that when a telegraph line has been newly established a great many birds are slain in this way, whereas after two or three seasons comparatively few suffer. This indicates that birds learn by experience.

Vessels coasting off shore from ten to 100 miles are often visited by birds which have been swept off the land by wind. If at a great distance from the land, they invariably die from exhaustion after reaching the ships. Sometimes hundreds are seen to fall dashing into the water within a few minutes, being unable to sustain flight any longer. In fact, the ocean rarely affords a burial place for vast numbers of feathered creatures. Likewise, immense numbers are lost in the great lakes, being blown off shore by winds, or becoming exhausted in trying to cross those sheets of water.

There is no truth in the popular notion that the birds are able to follow it. It is able easily to overtake any duck. But it is thought that swifts and humming birds are even quicker travelers.

The migration of birds have long been regarded as mysterious in many ways. Nevertheless, science has elucidated the problem to a considerable extent. The fact is, that these animals have definite routes of travel. They are guided by such geographical features as coast lines, rivers, valleys, and mountain ranges. From the height at which they fly, the surface of the earth presents the appearance of a map, on which, at night, in the light of moon and stars, the hills, plains, lakes, etc., are more or less distinctly outlined for 100 miles or more in every direction. Any one who has spent a clear night on the summit of a mountain will not question this statement. The old birds which lead the flights have no difficulty, guided by these landmarks, in following paths which they have repeatedly traversed before. Points along the route constitute stations. At such places—ordinarily promontories extending into the sea, edges of forest bordering extensive plains, or extremities of mountain ranges—the migratory tide hesitates and halts before venturing on the dangerous stage ahead. This pause allows the stragglers to come up. Oceanic birds doubtless find their way to their breeding grounds over the pathless sea by using coast lines and sea islands as guides.

A Maiden Hard to Please.

"I just heard of Fanny's engagement, and I came over to congratulate her," said Miss Hiland to Mrs. Dukane.

"Suppose you step upstairs," replied the matron. "Fanny is in her room, and will be glad to see you."

Miss Hiland entered her friend's room, and found her sobbing bitterly. "Why, Fanny, what are you crying for?" asked the caller.

"Boo-hoo!" sobbed the newly-betrothed.

"What's the matter?"

"I'm engaged! Boo-hoo!"

"Yes, I know. Is that why you are crying?" I came in to congratulate you."

The sob continued.

"What's the trouble? Do you think Frank has quit loving you already?"

"No-no, but—"

"But what? Was there any difficulty in getting your parents' consent?"

"It's just the other way. They said they were glad, and seemed so pleased it looked as though they were glad to get me off their hands. Boo-hoo! They just said 'Boo-hoo!' I've a great mind to break the engagement. So there!"

And the tears commenced to flow again.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

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TELEPHONE 1727. Aug. 12th

PICO'S REMEDY FOR CATARRH

CHAPTER IN PALMISTRY.

A GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION BY MARK TWAIN.

Tells, in His New Novel, "Pudd'nhead Wilson," How a Master of the Art Revealed a Murder by the Lines of the Hand.

"But look here, Dave," said Tom, "you used to tell people's fortunes, too, when you took their finger marks. Why, he'll read your wrinkles as easy as a book, and not only tell you fifty or sixty things that's going to happen to you, but fifty or sixty thousand that ain't. Come, Dave, show the gentlemen what an inspired Jack-all-science we've got in this town, and don't know it."

Wilson winced under this nagging and not very courteous chaff, and the twins suffered with him and for him. They rightly judged, now, that the best way to relieve him, would be to take the thing in earnest and treat it with respect, ignoring Tom's rather overdone raillery; so Luigi said—

"We have seen something of palmistry in our wanderings, and know very well what astonishing things it can do. If it isn't a science, and one of the greatest of them, too, I don't know what its other name ought to be. In the Orient—"

Tom looked surprised and incredulous. He said:

"That juggling a science? But really, you ain't serious, are you?"

"Yes, entirely so. Four years ago we had our hands read out to us as if our palms had been covered with print."

"Well, do you mean to say there was actually anything in it?" asked Tom, his incredulity beginning to weaken a little.

"There was this much in it," said Angelo; "what was told us of our character was minutely exact—we could not have bettered it ourselves. Next, two or three memorable things that had happened to us were laid bare—things which no one present but ourselves could have known about."

"I haven't examined half a dozen hands in the last half dozen years; you see, the people got to joking about it, and I stopped to let the talk die down. I'll tell you what we'll do, Count Luigi; I'll make a try at your past, and if I have any success there, no, on the whole, I'll let the future alone; that's really the affair of an expert."

He took Luigi's hand. Tom said: "Wait—don't look yet, Dave! Count Luigi, here's paper and pencil. Set down that thing that you said was the most striking one that was told to you, and happened less than a year afterward, and give it to me so I can see if Dave finds it in your hand."

Luigi wrote a line privately, and folded up the piece of paper, and handed it to Tom, saying:

"I'll tell you when to look at it, if he finds it."

Wilson began to study Luigi's palm, tracing life lines, heart lines, head lines, and so on, and noting carefully their relations with the cobweb of finer and more delicate marks and lines that enmeshed them on all sides; he felt of the fleshy cushion at the base of the thumb, and noted its shape; he felt of the fleshy side of the hand between the wrist and the base of the little finger, and noted its shape also; he painstakingly examined the fingers, observing their form, proportions, and natural manner of disposing their selves when in repose. All this process was watched by the three spectators with absorbing interest, their heads bent together over Luigi's palm, and nobody disturbing the stillness with a word. Wilson now entered upon a close survey of the palm again, and his revelations began.

He mapped out Luigi's character and disposition, his tastes, aversions, proclivities, ambitions, and eccentricities in a way which sometimes made Luigi wince and the others laugh, but both twins declared that the chart was artistically drawn and was correct.

Next, Wilson took up Luigi's history. He proceeded cautiously and with hesitation, now moving his finger slowly along the great lines of the palm, and now, as if by accident, touching a "star" or some such landmark, and examining that neighborhood minutely. He proclaimed one or two past events, Luigi confirmed his correctness, and the search went on. Presently Wilson glanced up with a surprised expression.

"Here is record of an incident which you would perhaps not wish me to—"

"Bring it out," said Luigi, good-naturedly; "I promise you it shan't embarrass me."

But Wilson still hesitated, and did not seem quite to know what to do. Then he said:

"I think it is too delicate a matter to—to I believe I would rather write it or whisper it to you, and let you decide for yourself whether you want it talked out or not."

"That will answer," said Luigi; "write it."

Wilson wrote something on a slip of paper and handed it to Luigi, who read it to himself and said to Tom:

"Unfold your slip and read it, Mr. Driscoll."

Tom read:

"It was prophesied that I would kill a man. It came true before the year was out."

Tom added, "Great Scott!"

Luigi handed Wilson's paper to Tom, and said:

"Now read this."

Tom read:

"You have killed some one, but whether man, woman or child, I do not make out."

"Caesar's ghost!" commented Tom, with astonishment. "It beats anything that was ever heard of! Why, a man's own hand is his deadliest enemy! Just think of that—a man's own hand keeps a record of the deepest and fatallest secrets of his life, and is treacherously ready to expose him to any black-magic stranger that comes along. But what do you let a person look at your hand for, with that awful thing printed in it?"

"Oh," said Luigi, reproachfully, "I don't mind it. I killed the man for good reasons, and I don't regret it."

"What were the reasons?"

"Well, he needed killing."

"I'll tell you why he did it, since he won't say himself," said Angelo, warmly. "He did it to save my life, that's what he did it for. So it was a noble act, and not a thing to be hid in the dark."—Century.

HE FOUGHT WITH POE.

Congressman English's Quarrel With the Author of "The Raven."

One of the oldest men in the House of Representatives is Dr. Thomas Dunn English, who represents the sixth (or Essex county) district of New Jersey, and who will be 75 years of age June 29, 1894. Long before he ever dreamed of becoming Congressman English, the gentleman from New Jersey acquired distinction as the author of "Ben Bolt." In addition to his fame as a poet Mr. English enjoyed the notoriety of having been at one time the chosen friend and boon companion of Edgar Allan Poe, author of "The Raven" and other poems. How this friendship terminated can best be described in the language of Mr. English.

"Up to 1845," said the New Jersey statesman, "Poe and myself were well nigh inseparable, both at Philadelphia and New York, where we afterward removed. While in the latter city Poe became involved in a controversy with a brother of Mrs. Ellet, a noted novelist half a century ago, relative to certain letters which Poe declared the lady had written to him. The dispute became very animated, and one day while I was discussing certain matters with a caller Poe burst into the room where we were talking and demanded the loan of my pistol. When I asked him what he wanted it for his reply was that he intended to shoot the brother of the woman whom he had calumniated. This was my opportunity and I did not neglect it. In the plainest language possible I told Poe that he was acting the part of a blackguard, and slandering and endeavoring to compromise an honest woman, and he knew it. Besides," said I, "you know, Poe, that you have no letters from Mrs. Ellet as well as I do."

"Blurted out that he did not propose to be talked to in such a manner before a stranger, Poe reiterated that he had very damaging letters from the lady in question. Then, in heaven's name, why don't you produce them?" was my query. This did not seem to be at all pleasant to the author of "The Raven," and he volunteered the information that I was poking my nose into his business too much. One word led to another, and from words we came to blows, my right fist crumming Poe's right eye in the most approved fashion. A series of punches followed, and before the scrimmage ended I had forced my unwelcome visitor down to the floor, and taking him by both ears, and sides of his face, I proceeded to ram his face vigorously against the floor of my apartment. This encounter stirred up all the malevolence in Poe's nature; and when his disgraced countenance was commented upon a few minutes later he evaded an explanation by saying that he had run against a workman who was carelessly carrying a piece of lumber on his shoulder. Ever afterward he could not say things too mean about me, and this fisticuff ended all friendly relations between us up to the day of his death."—New York Tribune.

The Nerve of a Porch-Climber.

"I think one of the most remarkable exhibitions of nerve on the part of a burglar was shown by one who was captured in Philadelphia not very long ago," said J. H. Ivers to a St. Louis reporter. "The fellow was what is known as a 'porch-climber,' and one evening about eight o'clock he gained access to the sleeping apartment of a house in one of the best portions of the city. While engaged in ransacking the room he heard some one coming up the stairs, and not having time to escape he sought safety under the bed. The door opened and the lady of the house entered, and, after busying herself about the room for a few minutes, picked up a book and commenced to read. The bed under which the fellow was concealed was a very low one, and his cramped position was anything but comfortable. He did not dare to move for fear of betraying himself, but kept hoping she would leave the room for some reason or other and give him a chance to escape."

"She stayed on, however, and about ten o'clock was joined by her husband. After a few minutes' conversation they retired to the very bed under which the burglar lay concealed. In trying to shift his position a little the fellow under the bed made a slight noise, which immediately alarmed the woman. Calling her husband, she said: 'Tom, there is some one under the bed.' 'Nonsense,' he said; 'you are dreaming.' 'I tell you I heard some one,' she replied. 'It is only a dog,' he said. 'Here, I will prove it to you,' and with that he threw his arm over the edge and, snapping his fingers, called as he would to a dog. The fellow under the bed took in the situation in an instant, and realizing that he must act promptly, actually reached out his head to where the hand hung and licked the fingers with his tongue, as the dog might do. The act was performed so naturally that the man in bed was completely deceived, and, after saying to his wife, 'I told you so,' and telling her to go to sleep, he turned over and was soon lost in slumber. After waiting until convinced they were sound asleep, the burglar crawled out from under the bed, and, taking everything of value he could find in the room, made his escape."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Belgian Marriage Certificates.

In Belgium it is the custom to give certificates of marriages in the form of little books with paper covers, which are taken in evidence, are apt to become dirty and dog-eared. The burgomasters of Brussels has, therefore, hit upon a new plan. Henceforth a charge will be made for the books, which will be neatly bound in Morocco and gilt-edged. They will be something more than a mere certificate. A summary of Belgian law on the married state is given in them for the use of young couples, and among a mass of other miscellaneous information are directions for the feeding and care of infants. There are also places for entering the names and birthdays of the children of the marriage, the authorities considerably affording space for twelve such entries. To poor persons the books will be issued free of charge. One of the town councilors was in favor of adding directions for obtaining a divorce, but it is needless to say his suggestion was not adopted.

MEXICAN CAVES AND MUMMIES.

Underground Relics of a Former Civilization in Chihuahua.

Moses Thatcher, the millionaire apostle and financier of the Mormon church, whose home is in Logan, Utah, is residing for a time at 220 Van Ness avenue. Mr. Thatcher has been an apostle of the Mormon church since 1878, and his life work has been devoted to the building up of the kingdom of the latter days. He has spent many years in exploring the wilds and beauty lands of Mexico.

In the State of Chihuahua the Sierra Madre Mountains, Mr. Thatcher states, held for him the greatest attractions. West of the Casas Grandes Valley, through which flows the Piedras Verdes, a lovely river which connects with the San Miguel in the upper part of the valley and forms the Casas Grandes River, there is an exceedingly beautiful expanse of country. It is interspersed with mountains of moderate size, a branch of the Sierra Madre range, and not far from where the celebrated Sabinal mines are located on the Corralitos ranch, one of the richest regions, pregnant with gold and silver ore, awaiting the advent of the prospector and the iron horse.

"Many places I passed through," said the apostle, "strongly reminded me of the placer ground in the Sierra Nevada mountains, at the head of the American River. The great similarity of the soil is most pronounced, and all the indications are almost identical."

"The Mormon colony was the first to settle in the Sierra Madre range in this region. They camped right on the trail of the dreaded Apaches, and named one of their settlements Pacheco, after the noted General, who was Secretary of War. The Mexicans were astounded at the boldness of these pioneers, and considered annihilation inevitable."

In a radius of 100 miles there is enough masonry to build two cities the size of San Francisco, and this tells the tale of a great civilization that once flourished there. I purchased a sitio, or a little over 4,000 acres of land, some time ago, and subsequently bought up an adjoining tract of 48,000 acres. On part of this land I discovered about half a dozen caves. The entrances were walled up with cement two and one-half feet thick, with only postholes and a narrow aperture left sufficiently wide to allow one person to enter. These caves were provided with oases, in which water and provisions were stored, and were formed of long narrow chambers, walled with cement, and were usually about twelve feet high and eight or nine feet in width. One was in perfect preservation.

"The caves were divided into apartments, and one of them contained a number of rooms. Upon the walls were found long narrow writings of the ancient inhabitants, of the same class as described in the 'Mexican Antiquities' by Lord Kingsbury. The caves on the land referred to will accommodate fully 1,000 persons, and a celebrated Belgian scientist not long ago more remarks in them than he had in a search of 150 miles elsewhere."—San Francisco Examiner.

Theologic Literature of the Day.

Harold Frederic says, in the New York Times, that the thirty-ninth volume of Spurgeon's sermons has just been issued. The complete edition will consist of fifty-two volumes. The sale has been enormous, the demand increasing tremendously since Spurgeon's death. The aggregate sales, for all the volumes added together, is put at the incredible figure of 70,000,000. It is said that the single sermon on "Baptismal Regeneration" has sold 224,000. When one also considers the apparently great sale in this country of the various editions of the sermons and addresses of Phillips Brooks, it becomes apparent that theology and religion are no longer utterly dependent on the popularity of the pulpit. No preacher ever lived to preach to such a multitude as Spurgeon is reported now to be addressing from the grave. And the same printing press that carries the words of these modern preachers to all corners of the world, and which must soon carry those of the pulpit, is also printing Spurgeon and Brooks were preaching, carries to the sermon on the Mount to countless millions, through countless years; and the epistles of Paul become "open letters" to the world.

It used to be popular, about the time the Bellamy's "Looking Backward" appeared, to talk of the coming days when a man would not have to go to church to hear a sermon, when he would be able to sit at home with his feet on the fender, while the telephone drummed dogma into his ears. That time may come, indeed; but already the day has dawned when man can sit in his library and have his soul filled and his spirit expanded with noble words and high truth, and the eloquence of the world's greatest preachers; when he need not wait until Sunday for the strengthening discourse that he needs; and when, though he be poor in the world's goods, he yet may have at his command a chaplain who will speak to him in such words as it is given to few persons to speak or write.

When we talk about the waning power of the church, of the lessening attendance, and of the decreasing influence of the preacher, it should be remembered that the church has now a new power, which no man can measure, and which is the same that in past years has proved very nearly the greatest power in the world.—Post-Express.

One of the Barber's Secrets.

One of the well-known barbers of the city remarked the other day to an Indianapolis Journal man, while rapidly going over a customer's face with a keen-edged razor, that few people gave a thought as to how easy it seemed to cut a face during the operation of shaving, and yet how comparatively seldom such a thing happened. He said that where the face was kept wet the danger of cutting was reduced to a minimum, as the razor would slide along in the hands of the average barber, and do its work all right. If, however, the face was somewhat dry, the chances of slashing a man were increased vastly. The secret of immunity from unpleasant accidents of this sort is, therefore, to use plenty of lather and plenty of water in going over the face. A "dry shave" is a dangerous undertaking.

WHAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF.

Evidence That the Mind Reasons to the Cause Rather Than From It.

"Did it ever occur to you that when we dream our minds operate backward?" said a scientific man recently. "I mean by this that the cause which gives the impression to the sleeper's mind that makes him begin to dream is always the climax of the vision. We can find many examples that will sustain this theory. Take, for instance, a man who dreams of bed. He dreams, perhaps, that he has fallen from a precipice. The cause of this dream is the shock he receives by coming in contact with the floor. Between the time he receives the fall and the moment he awakes—in this short period, almost infinitesimal—his mind follows out the impression received by the fall, reasoning to it as a climax. Thus, when he comes to his senses he remembers having had the vision and wonders why he should have fallen out of bed just at the moment he should have reached the bottom of the abyss. It would be folly to think that he had been dreaming of falling and then suited his actions to the dream by doing so exactly that moment. I have had dreams in which explosions occurred, and they were caused by the noise of a door being slammed. The noise gave my mind the impression of an explosion, and so I reasoned to it. The details have so perfect and the series of incidents leading up to the explosion have seemed to take up such a great length of time that I have often wondered at the rapidity of thought while I slept. In a moment incidents can be reviewed which it would take hours to act out. I know of a friend who fell asleep while looking at a clock one afternoon and began a trip to New York in a dream. He remembered vividly the ride from his house to the depot; how he was stopped by a friend who questioned him about important business; how he got on the train after having an altercation with the baggage man in regard to charging for overweight, all of which compelled him to run to catch a train; and how he sat in the parlor car and enjoyed the scenery, remembering all the stations until he arrived at Greensburg, when a friend asked him to join in a game of poker; how he played each hand, the pleasant recollection of several times holding four aces being plainly in his mind; how he continued playing without interruption except for dinner until he arrived at Philadelphia, when he counted over some \$400 in winnings. Then he remembered having met a friend while eating in Broad street station who talked upon a leading topic in politics; then he got on the train, and began reading a magazine which he had purchased at the news stand, finally arriving at Jersey City. He had just got on the ferry-boat when his wife came in and woke him. He rubbed his eyes, and, thinking he had been asleep for some time he looked at the clock, when he found that but three minutes had elapsed since he fell asleep. In these three minutes he had made a journey to New York, seeing and doing as vividly as real. I tell this story to show the wonderful activity of the brain of a sleeping person and in support of my theory that in a dream the mind reasons to a cause rather than from it."—St. Louis Republic.

The Dwarfs of Maya Fable.

When questioned about the old ruined cities, they reply, "The dwarfs built them," and insist that the pixan or souls of those dwarfs, always walk about at night, coming into their houses and doing mischief. In the daytime they are supposed to dwell among the ruins. The reputation of the alux (dwarfs) is not much better than that enjoyed by the "little people" of Ireland and Scotland, accused of stealing butter, souring milk, and envenoming the milk of the cow, and creatures with wrinkled faces. The alux are said to disturb tired laborers by shaking their hammocks, lash those who slumber too heavily, throw stones and whistle. They terrify all who look at them, and steal food; for, though not taller than a child four years old, they can outstep any man does. Their only article of apparel is a very wide brimmed straw hat.

Belief in these dwarfish apparitions is perhaps induced by a vague knowledge that several centuries ago a race of remarkably small people did live in those parts. Evidence that they are found on the east coast of Yucatan and on adjacent islands. There are several temples only nine feet high and eighteen inches wide. In some of those houses domestic utensils have been found very small. Any traveler may examine the strange little houses, and doubtless the belief in the phantom alux is an outgrowth of tradition concerning the dwarfish people who constructed them.—Mrs. A. D. Le Plongeon in the Popular Science Monthly.

What Causes Thunder?

"The generally accepted theory of the cause of thunder never satisfied me," said a well-known physician. "It seemed to me that instead of being caused by the vacuum produced by the electric bolt going through the atmosphere, it would be more plausible to attribute it to reverse of contraction—to expansion. I mean that the facts attending the phenomenon of thunder are such as to warrant my putting forth the theory that the cause of it is the explosion of the oxygen produced by the action of the electricity upon the air. One of the arguments in favor of this theory is the great amount of ozone to be found in the atmosphere after a thunder storm. Then, if it was contraction of the air, rushing into the vacuum that caused the noise, heat would be produced, whereas after every peal of thunder you will notice a sheet of rain falls, showing that instead of heat being produced the atmosphere must get colder to produce the great condensation. I can not conceive how electricity passing through the atmosphere could create a vacuum great enough to make a noise like thunder. This theory came to me many years ago, before electricity was so generally used. Now, the fact of being able to transmit electricity through a solid iron without even heating it seems to justify my theory regarding the formation of a vacuum."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

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